


The Baptist Informer

LIGHT  TRUTH

Official Organ of the General Baptist Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 350,000 Baptists

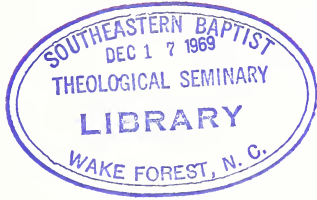
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NUMBER 12

*"And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together."—Isaiah 40:5*

O. L. SHERRILL



C. C. CRAIG

WE
HAVE
SEEN
HIS
STAR

MRS. M. A. HOBBS

MRS. M. W. DUNN

GEORGE W. DUDLEY

MRS. GLADYS FOWLER

AND JOYFULLY EXTEND GREETINGS IN HIS NAME.
MAY YOUR CHRISTMAS BE FILLED WITH
HAPPINESS, JOY AND PEACE
THE STAFF

MRS. B. W. HERNDON

MISS IVERY WILLIAMSON

BAPTIST

MISS MONICA LEWIS

HEADQUARTERS

NORMAN WINSTON

MRS. BETTIE CHISLON

THE BAPTIST INFORMER

ORGAN OF THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

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GREETINGS

Dear Christian Co-workers,

Wishing you again this year a joyous Christmas and prosperous New Year brings back memories of the many years I have had this pleasure. What is particularly gratifying is to review the optimistic forecasts of previous years — and to see how accurately they have come to realization.

The year just closing has been one of the best years the Convention has every enjoyed, and you have played an important part in making it so. Throughout the year your friendship has made my work more enjoyable for which I am grateful. You have done a good job, you have carried your share of the load; you have played a large part in writing our record of progress. Therefore, I should like to express my appreciation to you for having given so fully of your strength, cooperation and loyalty toward making 1969 such a successful year.

In sending you this expression of holiday greetings, I feel sure that the thought of your personal record in 1969 will bring you real happiness, and that your expectations for 1970 will bring you substantial rewards.

For Christmas, a very merry holiday; for the New Year, the heartiest best wishes for a bumper crop of health, happiness and prosperity. In these good wishes I am joined by the entire Headquarters Staff.

O. L. Sherrill

TRAGEDY STRIKES

On Saturday, November 15, Thomas J. Hardy, Jr., a Charlotte businessman was robbed and slain. Mr. Hardy is the father of Mrs. Marizetta Kerry, wife of the Reverend Coleman W. Kerry, Secretary of our Convention; Promotional Director of the Informer and pastor of Friendship Baptist Church, Charlotte. Marizetta and Coleman are among our most loyal and dedicated friends. We extend to them and Mrs. Hardy our prayerful concern and dedicated interest in this distressing time.

THE PURPOSE OF GOD'S COMING TO US IN JESUS

In this advent season let us try to realize the purposes of the Incarnation, of God's coming to us in Jesus.

A wise philosopher's heart one bleak winter was moved with pity for the birds. He opened his window and tried to entice them with food into the warm room, but they would not come. He went outside and tried to drive them in, but of course this only frightened them. "If I were a bird, they would understand and follow me, and I could save them," he thought, as Dr. Van Dyke tells the story. Then this man, who thought he did not believe in God, suddenly exclaimed: "O God, now I understand! The only way you could save mankind was to be a Man yourself and through your love for us, your oneness with us, lead us."

It's Christmastide!

It's Christmastide! Let's clean the slate
Of every old-year grudge or hate.
Let's pin a sprightly sprig of holly
Upon dull care and melancholy.
Let's reach out friendly hands and grip
Each other in warm comradeship

MY DREAM

I dreamed I saw Christ come again
Across the snowy Christmas plain,
With gifts and blessings in His hand
For every heart in every land;
But He brought not a painted toy,
Some little superficial joy,
A dole a moment's need to cure,
A Christmas dinner for the poor.
He brought to all men everywhere
The right to do, the right to share,
The right to think, the right to learn,
The right to labor and to earn,
Courage to walk with head erect.
In peace of mind and self-respect.
The right to face life unafraid,
Oh, what a Christmas Day it made.

VETERAN LOCAL MINISTER ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT

Rev. Ananias T. Evans, pastor of First Baptist Church, announced his plans for retiring early in the spring of this year, and a special recognition service was held for him in June with local and area ministers participating.

Rev. Evans' retirement after 40 years and eight months of service to First Baptist Church became official on November 30.

The retiring minister is ending a long pastoral career in Lexington and Davidson County. Following his graduation from Livingstone College, Salisbury, he taught school in New London. He later moved to Lexington and served as teacher in the Southmont School and pastor of First Baptist Church. After several years as teacher, he decided to devote his time to farming and pastoring.

Rev. Evans' 40 years of pastoral leadership in Lexington and Davidson County has been distinguished by a number of factors including building programs and participation in state and local church activities.

He continued to upgrade the church standards, much of which has been accomplished through stimulating conferences and conventions and through continuous contracts with local and state affairs.

Rev. and Mrs. Evans will maintain their home here in Lexington and will continue to be active on the local scene.

REGIONAL MEETINGS TO BE HELD

- January 16 — Star of Zion, New Bern, L. D. Bizzell
- January 27 — Greater St. Paul, Durham, W. T. Bigelow
- January 29 — First, Bladenboro, A. C. Jones
- February 12 — Cornerstone, Elizabeth City, J. R. R. McRay
- February 17 — First, Rich Square, C. C. Lawrence
- February 19 — Mount Zion, Badin, E. T. Lee
- March 27 — Mount Calvary, Wilmington, F. R. Devane
- April 7 — St. Luke, Charlotte, L. D. Parker
- April 14 — Morning Star, Hickory, C. R. Harper

A Christmas Chat

A REAL TRUE FRIEND IS A JOY FOREVER!

by Executive Secretary Horne

It is that glorious time again—

Christmas! The season when the whole world loses some of its tenseness and gives thought to the beauty and miracle of living.

It is a time when friends get together to fellowship and discuss the joys of just living in a time like this —

How I wish we could sit down at your table or mine, drink coffee and reflect on the past year's experiences. We could talk and talk and talk — and oh, we would not talk of sad things like sickness, death and disappointments, rebuffs and the like, for we know that these things are a part of living and we accept and adjust to them with the marvelous strength and courage we have been given to do so — by our great God whose Son was given to us to share these heartaches with us.

We would talk, rather, of the glory and joy of living; of the accomplishments of 1969, the friends like you we are so very blessed to have, and the wonder that God has used us, and permitted us to do the things we have accomplished because of His love.

We would dwell at length, as we sip your coffee or mine, on what love can do when we expose ourselves to its power.

This is really what CHRISTMAS is all about, isn't it? The matchless love that God has for us, that He gave His Son to interpret that love, and to be a companion in all of our involvements, motivated by love for His people.

I am really stretching my imagination to have this friendly chat with you. If time would permit, I would share with you a few experiences I have had this year, but I don't want to stay and wear out my welcome—

However, I will say, before we part, that this little chat does not only reflex the traditional feeling but it comes to you from a true spirit of appreciation for your love, concern and your splendid cooperation in the past.

I must leave you now with renewed hope that peace and contentment and the blessings of CHRISTMAS remain with you and those you love each day in the year.

**"ALL THE EARTH SHALL
BE FILLED WITH THE
GLORY OF THE LORD."**

Numbers 14:21



The Reverend A. L. Morgan
Woman's Mid-Year Preacher
His Choir will render music

STOP — LOOK — READ WOMAN'S CONVENTION MID YEAR SESSION!

The Mid-Year Session of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention will be held —

Saturday, January 10, 1970
First Baptist Church
101 South Wilmington Street
Raleigh, North Carolina
Dr. C. W. Ward, Pastor

Hours 9:00 A.M. 3:00 P.M.

Dinner will be Served at the Church (\$1.50)

Come and Be Informed. We need the Seniors,
Young Adults and Jr.-Young People of our State.

BRING: A Liberal Offering For State Missions —
Goal \$5,000.00

SEE: The Woman's Convention At Work

OBSERVE: Fifty (50) Women Who Volunteered
to Report \$50.00 each for State Missions

PREACHING AT ITS BEST (2:00 P.M.) The
Reverend A. L. Morgan, Pastor Wake Chapel Baptist
Church, Raleigh. A gospel preacher and a friend of
the Woman's Convention. Hear Him at 2:00 P.M.

Plan now to attend and remain throughout the
Session.

READ ROMANS 12:1-21

THE FOURTH ANNUAL ADDRESS OF DR. JOHN W. WHITE TO THE ONE HUNDRED AND SECOND ANNUAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

Meeting with the —
Sycamore Hill Missionary Baptist Church
Greenville, North Carolina
October 27 - 30, 1969

Mr. Chairman, Officers, Members, and Friends of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. Not having had the opportunity to speak to each of you individually, since on these sacred grounds we have arrived; may I say in the words of our Lord and Master — "All Hail!"

It has been twelve months since we met in the city of Statesville, North Carolina, at the foot-hills of the Blue Ridge Mountains — there at the beautiful First Baptist Church pastored by the young and dynamic leader, the Reverend J. C. Harris, we witnessed one of the greatest annual sessions of this one hundred and two year old Convention. So evident was the presence of God, that every soul could sing the song which the angels sang: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace, goodwill toward men".

We have come to the Sycamore Hill Missionary Baptist Church of Greenville, North Carolina to observe the one hundred and second annual session of our Convention. Your presence here is indicative of the fact that you are concerned about the on going of this Convention. For, as I look into the audience, I recognize faces from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south. I know that you did not ride North Carolina's hazardous highways for the fun of it — but you are here because you are interested in bringing the Kingdom of God on earth into the hearts of mankind.

On May, the seventh, we witnessed an inspiring and informing 'One Day Session' of this Convention. We met at the historical Martin Street Missionary Baptist Church, Raleigh, North Carolina. The hospitality extended to us there by Dr. Paul H. Johnson and his congregation was most gratifying. The spirit

of Christ prevailed, and the financial receipts were high.

THE WORLD IN WHICH WE LIVE

Our Convention today is in the midst of a world that is on fire; a world torn by war, a world engulfed by race hatred, race riots, youth revolt against any kind of authority, even parental authority; corruption in government, and a dead God theology. These evils (and many more) flaunt themselves in the very face of our churches, Associations, and Conventions. The truth is . . . 'while our churches, Associations, and Conventions are sleeping, the enemy is sowing tares among the wheat'. We need to hear again the voice of God to his church of old: . . . saying, "Awake, awake; put on thy strength O' Zion; put on thy beautiful garments; shake thyself from the dust; arise and sit down. Loose thyself from the bonds of thy neck O, captive daughter of Zion."

Among the components and causes of today's climate of violence are the breakdown of American home life, the popularity of murder mysteries and spy stories, the prevalence of television and movie violence, the traffic in toy guns, the spread of pornographic literature, and the use of alcohol and drugs.

Our social, economic, and spiritual images are not lights reflecting the pathway that Christ would have the world to follow, for each year in America, four hundred thousand divorces are granted, one hundred thousand desertions occur, two hundred thousand children are born out of wedlock, five million people become alcoholics, one hundred thousand retarded children are born, seventeen million people suffer from some mental illness, fifty thousand narcotics users struggle with the problem of addiction, one million eight hundred thousand serious crimes are committed, two million children between the ages of seven and seventeen are brought to the attention of the police. Seventeen million people are past the age of sixty-five, often without work, adequate income or housing; and thirty-four million people are poverty stricken. These statistics do not include the neurotic, the unhappy, those who are troubled by doubt, haunted by guilt, and plagued by fears. Friends, this is the kind of world in which we live! A world that is confused, perplexed, and troubled. There are those who say they know the way out of such confusion. But — what many groups and organizations do not seem to realize is — that, **there is a way which seemeth right unto man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.**

1. The Hippies who have become dissatisfied with much of the present established order of our society, say their way out is the best way.
2. The Black Power advocates say the way out is for all Blacks to pool their resources.

3. The Black Panthers say the way out is to change the laws, and change them right now! Change them by physical force, if necessary! Physical force almost always leads to violence, and violence will ultimately lead to chaos.

4. The N. A. A. C. P. says the way out is the way of law and order. If the laws are wrong change them at the polls. This it is doing and as a result, many black men and women have been elected to high political offices in our country within the past few years.

5. The Southern Christian Leadership Conference says the way out is through non-violent protests.

6. But, Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour, is saying through his church, **"I am the way out, come follow me."**

We are living in a world where hundreds of organizations are seeking to establish and maintain permanent peace among mankind everywhere. I read an article a few days ago written by Arthur H. Stainback in which he says, and I quote — "The greatest and most consistent effort toward unity among peoples and nations in our times is the United Nations Organization. We may have different ideas about the United Nations, says he, but it still remains the most promising movement toward international understanding and the **"best weapon for peace that we have,"** unquote. But, I have better news for Mr. Stainback. Christ did not leave his peace with a United Nations Organization, nor with a League of Nations Organization, but he left the peace which the world is seeking today with his church. He called his little church together and said to it — **"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you; not as the world giveth, give unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."**

But, in the very next paragraph of Mr. Stainback's writing, he says, "If all church members will 'unite' from selfishness and 'retie' to Christ there will be happiness and peace among the people of the world". In this he is absolutely right.

We are living in a world today in which science is working miracles. Man through scientific know how has conquered outer space, walked on yonders moon, and brought back to earth moon rocks. The world was startled as it gazed at man upon the moon; and, even until now, there are thousands who behold this miracle on television, but cannot believe their own eyes.

We are living in a world in which too much emphasis is being placed on denominationalism and not enough upon christianity. Denominationalism will not save us from our sins, Christ and Him alone, can save us. We are putting too much emphasis on our church house, and not enough on Christ's church.

We are living in a world in which the Christian churches have not met the challenges of our time as they ought. Many of us, yes, and far too many of us, spend most of our energies spreading discord in our churches, Associations, and Conventions. Many of us at home in our local churches desire to run the church and tell the pastor where to get off. If we cannot do either, we sow discord among the members for the purpose of killing the pastor's influence, so that we ourselves can get in the drivers' seat. We would, if possible, destroy the cause to show our own egocentrism. The same persons, if holding an office in an Association or Convention wants everybody to follow them; when at home in the local church, they will not follow the man to whom Christ said, "And I will give unto thee the Keys of the Kingdom of heaven; and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

In our local churches about every fourth person wants to be the pastor.

In our local Associations about every third person wants to be the Moderator.

In our State Convention about every other person wants to be President. We want to exalt ourselves, that we might be seen and heard of men, but we must not forget that Jesus never said: "You, if you be lifted up from the earth you will draw all men unto you," but, he did say: "I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me". Whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

Friends, this is the kind of world in which we live, move, and have our being.

OUR CONVENTION

The Baptist Headquarters — We are blessed with the wise and dynamic leadership of Dr. O. L. Sherrill, Executive Secretary of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina; who knows all the pastors by name; he knows the name and location of the churches which they serve. Under his leadership the Headquarter's staff is doing a commendable work for God. When I think of how they work night and day traveling North Carolina's hazardous highways, crying, — Unified Program! Unified Program! Unified Program! — I am reminded of the four beasts which John saw around the throne of God which rest not day and night, saying — Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come!

If you should accidentally speak a word against the President of the Convention, the Headquarter's staff would not thank you; if you should accidentally speak a word against the Executive Secretary, the Headquarter's staff would not think well of you;

but if you should accidentally speak a word against the Unified Program; as far as the Headquarter's staff is concerned, you have committed the unpardonable sin against the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.

A FEW OF THE URGENT NEEDS OF THIS CONVENTION

1. This Convention is in great need of more field workers. From the latter part of nineteen hundred and forty-five, to the first half of nineteen hundred and forty-eight, this Convention had six field workers; five full time and one part time, in the persons of Thomas Kilgore, O. L. Sherrill, Leon Reddick, John White, Luella Dickson, and J. H. Clanton, part-time. During this period the finance of this Convention increased over one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. Since that time the field workers have been reduced to two — O. L. Sherrill, and C. C. Craig. At the same time the membership of the Convention has increased some forty thousand. "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few; pray ye Therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest". The Convention has already approved the employing of another field worker. We employed Brother Scott, but, believe it or not, the young man was discouraged so much so by those who were jealous of the good he might do, that he resigned.
2. This Convention needs to reopen its book store. We miss thousands of dollars a year that could come into this Convention from the sale of books and other church equipment. We talk much about the pornographic literature our people are reading, but do nothing to put the right kind of literature into their hands. Brothers and sisters, and especially Brother Pastor, to a large degree we are responsible to Almighty God for the type of literature our people are reading. I hear Paul, the Apostle saying to young Timothy, his son in the ministry, "From a child you have known the holy scriptures, which are able to make you wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus." Timothy was not a reader of trashy literature of his day; but, a reader of the Holy Bible.
3. This Convention needs to adopt the Constitution which the Committee has been working on for four long years. The Adoption of this Constitution will go a long, long, long way in bringing about the kind of unity that is so much needed in our Convention in these times. This Constitution which will be read for adoption at this session is not something thrown together overnight to satisfy the wishes of a person or two or three persons. This Committee has worked long hours nights and days. It has worked thoughtfully,

earnestly, sincerely, hopefully, and prayerfully, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit to produce a document that will guide this Convention in a progressive way for the next century. Our failure to adopt this proposed Constitution will be an act of retrogression.

I have been very much encouraged by the spirit of unity exemplified in our auxiliaries. Early in this physical year the Layman's League Convention under the leadership of Brother Frank Marshall endorsed the adoption of the proposed Constitution. He knows when he endorsed it that he could not succeed himself in office after four years; but he is not trying to perpetuate himself, but to promote the kingdom of God on earth in the hearts of mankind.

Brother Butler, president of the State Sunday School Convention, and Brother Hawkins, president of the State Baptist Training Union Convention, led their Conventions in endorsing the adoption of the proposed Constitution. Both Brother Butler and Brother Hawkins knew before they endorsed it that if adopted, the Sunday School Convention and the Baptist Training Union Convention would become the Sunday School and Baptist Training Union Congress with only one president. But, do you not know that they never concerned themselves with the question, "which of us will be the new president?" These men are concerned about the work of the Kingdom of God and not promoting themselves.

Brother Williams, the president of the State Usher's Convention, has followed in the footsteps of Brothers Butler, Hawkins, and Marshall. Everyone that knows Brother Williams knows him to be an unselfish hardworking Christian gentleman.

Mrs. Vera Slade dynamic and wise Christian leader, and president of the Woman's home and Foreign Mission Convention, the youngest of our auxiliary presidents, as far as tenure of service goes; met with the Constitution Committee for the first time a few weeks ago. Her absence from previous meetings was due to the fact that she had failed to receive the notices. However, she spent five hours of hard work studying the proposed Constitution. Knowing her to be the type of Christian leader that she is, we expect her "Amen" to the proposed Constitution during this session.

Time will not allow me to tell of the great work that is being done by the Department of Interracial Cooperation, under the direction of Brother Corbin Cooper and his staff. Surely, his work with us is indicative of what two Baptist State Conventions can do together in promoting the Kingdom of God on earth. Under his leadership the two Conventions get things done without protest, without the crashing of glass, or the burning of houses. The only fire, is that invisible fire of the Holy Spirit burning on

the altars of our hearts. I shall say one thing about Brother Cooper — that he has hardly heard about himself before: He is like the devil! in that — wherever the Baptist meet he shows up! A few days ago I was more than three hundred miles from Asheville, attending the Keannessville Eastern Association, when I looked around there stood Brother Cooper'.

OUR OBJECTIVES

I shall not give a detailed report of the amount of finance given to the objectives of our Convention — State Mission, Foreign Mission, Christian Education, and the Central Orphanage. Dr. Sherrill has already given that report. The indications are that we gave more to the objectives last year than any previous year. This speaks well for the pastors of this Convention and the churches which they serve; it speaks well for the moderators of this Convention and the Associations which they are leading; it speaks well for all of the Auxiliaries of this Convention and their leaders. However, when we are reminded of how numerous we are, we have to confess that there is much more land to be possessed.

As Christian Stewards, Christ through us can supply all of the financial needs of this great Convention. If only we have in our hearts the love of God. The love of God will constrain you to give. "For God so loved the world that he gave His only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

All givers fall into three classes according to their financial ability. 1 — There are those who have a plenty to give. 2 — There are those who have a little to give. 3 — And, those who ain't got nothing to give.

1. What you going to do when you got a plenty?
2. What you going to do when you ain't got but a little?
3. What you going to do when you ain't got nothing?

God told Moses to tell the Children of Israel, "When you get in the Promised Land where you will have a plenty, **don't forget me.**" You will be living in houses you did not build; you will be drinking water from wells, you did not dig; you will be eating grapes from vines you did not plant." When you have a plenty don't forget God.

Tell them, I am the same God that led them out of Egypt; I am the same God that made a highway for them across the Red Sea; I am the same God that led them with a pillow of cloud by day and a pillow of fire by night; I am the same God that made a fountain out of the rock in the wilderness and fed them with manner from heaven. Tell them please don't forget me now that they have a plenty. There

is a tendency on the part of man when he has a plenty to forget God. The rich man had a plenty and forgot God; —

1. Tore down old barns — okay
2. Built new ones — okay
3. He worked hard — okay
4. He paid his employees fair wages — okay
5. He said to his soul — I have a plenty for you — BUT he left God out. God said to him, "Thy soul is required of thee—then whose will those things be?"

What are you going to do when you ain't got but a little?

Jesus wanted to feed five thousand hungry men plus women and children. He said to his church — "feed them". Philip said, "Lord, Judas, said there is not enough money in the treasure to buy food to feed them". Jesus said, "feed them". Andrew made a survey of the multitude, and said to Jesus, "the only food among the congregation is what a little boy has. He has only five barley loaves and two small fishes, that's too little to mention." Jesus said, "tell the little boy to give me his little lunch." Jesus blessed it; fed the multitude; and had twelve baskets full left over, which I believe he gave to the little boy to take home to his poor parents. When you don't have but a little give it to Jesus and when you get it back it will be more than it was before you let him use it.

What are you going to do when you ain't got nothing?

When Sarah became dissatisfied with her maid Hagar (you know the story) — she told Abraham to put her out. Abraham regretfully put her and her little boy Ishmael out — you know it's hard to be put out. He gave her some bread and a bottle of water. Hagar took her little son and went wandering in the wilderness. All the water, and all the bread was gone. The child cried — Hagar tried to pray. God did not hear Hagar's prayer, because she was a sinner. God heard the child crying, because he was of the seed of Abraham. God will hear his children's cry. Before they cry he will answer them; and while they are yet crying he will hear them.

When you ain't got nothing don't try to tell God anything; just cry and God will hear and answer your cry.

God heard Ishmael's cry and an angel of God called down from heaven and said to Hagar — "What's the matter Hagar? — don't be afraid, for God has heard the voice of Ishmael where he is and God opened Hagar's eyes and she saw a well of water springing up in the wilderness and she filled the bottle and gave the lad drink. So when you ain't got nothing just cry and God will hear and answer your cry.

UNIFIED PLAN

1969 - 70



TOTAL BUDGETED — \$400,000

**GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION
OF NORTH CAROLINA**

603 South Wilmington Street

Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

O. L. SHERILL, Executive Secretary

UNIFIED PLAN TOTAL-BUDGETED

If churches will contribute through the Unified Plan the budget can support the various mission causes as follows:

Christian Education	44%	\$176,000
Shaw University		
State Missions	30%	120,000
Foreign Missions	20%	80,000
Central Orphanage	6%	24,000
	<hr/> 100%	<hr/> \$400,000

Designated gifts reach certain individuals — The Unified Plan reaches the whole world.

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations . . ."
(Matt. 28:19)

Send gifts to:

General Baptist State Convention of N. C., Inc.
603 S. Wilmington St. — Raleigh, N. C. 27601